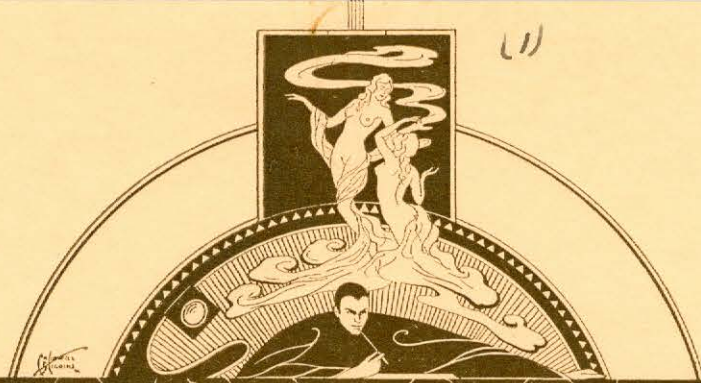


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*Bloomfield Art League*



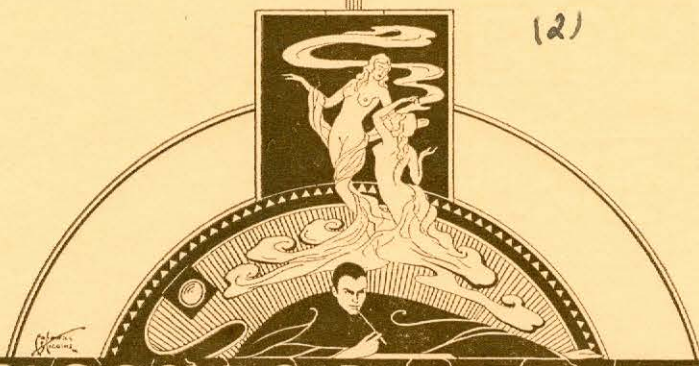
## THE BLOOMFIELD ART LEAGUE

### War Activities

Through the difficult years of World War II, the Bloomfield Art League continued to function in spite of difficulties; there were shortages of teachers and materials. But the trustees of the League felt its doors must be kept open for the adults who were artistically inclined, and who wanted to paint and sketch as a relaxation from war work, and as a relief from tension for many who had loved ones in service.

Many members of the League had been called into service. Cardwell Higgins, former president, and instructor of "Life Drawing" was called, and while in service did constructive work in the field of camouflage. Stephen Plezurski, while president of the League was





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called, and he too was employed in the navy to do art work. And George Swanson, another outstanding artist and former League teacher was called into service.

The Art League tried to keep in touch with their members who were serving in the war, and sent to them art supplies in the way of paints, water color paper, sketch pads, and pencils. Also, Chester Lawrence, who was then membership chairman, learned through the Nurses Registry the names of others from Bloomfield who wanted art supplies, and whether they were members of the League or not, supplies were sent to them.

Miss Anna Thomas, exhibitions chairman during the war years, arranged with a committee an





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exhibition of work by service men. The paintings were hung in the gallery of the library; a Tea and reception was held for the families of the boys exhibiting work.

The League also contributed gifts and magazines to Veteran Hospitals, and made contributions to the Red Cross.

One evening the League rooms was open to service men and women who were home on furlough; Lute Peace, Cartoonist from the Newark news was present and made sketches of these men and women, and gave the sketches to them.

Though the membership was small during the War years, and funds quite limited, the Bloomfield Art League tried to do what it could to help.

(Rec'd. Ed. 10-11-18) L. Peace. B. Lunch.